

# The Observer

SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE • Rensselaer, Indiana

## Dr. Berger accepts position at Franklin College

by Erin Breetzke

Alan Berger, currently Assistant to the President as well as professor of Anthropology, will be leaving the Saint Joseph's College community at the end of this school year, to begin a new job at Franklin College.

Franklin College is located approximately thirty minutes south of Indianapolis.

Since coming to Saint Joseph's in 1979, Berger has done much work for the college. But starting June first, Berger will be working at Franklin College as the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Though both positions are important, his new position differs a bit.

"What I've been doing this year [at Saint Joseph's College] as Assistant to the President, is working on involvement management issues," Berger explained. "That deals with working with the President, the Admissions office, the Financial

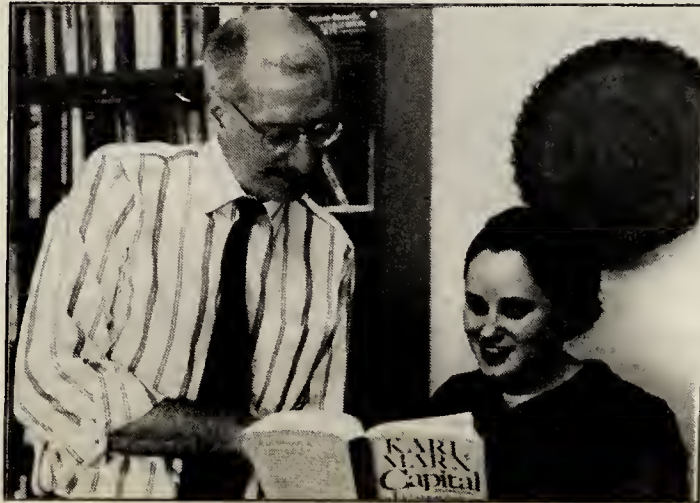


photo by Rachel Hempel

**Dr. Allen Berger with Monica Serrani. Berger is leaving Saint Joseph's to accept a position at Franklin College**

Aid office, and the Athletic department on recruitment issues,' he added.

Berger spent the 1994-1995 school year at Franklin and Marshall College as an A.C. E. Fellow.

As he moves to Franklin College, his job will require some of the same skills he learned as a Fellow.

"[As] Chief Academic Officer, [I will be] working with faculty, with curriculum and co-curricular services like tutoring," Berger

stated. "[I will be] overseeing the library, the registrar's office, faculty, and the delivery of academic services," he added.

As he moves forward in his career, there were many reasons for Berger's decision to leave the Saint Joseph's College community.

"It's [Franklin College] the right kind of school, it's in central Indiana, and it's also the right time to take this step in my career," Berger explained.

Because of his long stay here, he will be taking many experiences with him.

"There is no anthropology major here...so when I came to Saint Joseph's, I never had the opportunity to work with students narrowly in my own discipline," Berger explained. "I got involved with administration to work with the faculty on shaping the overall curriculum. Moving now to this next stage, it's almost a continuation and involves these same concerns," he added.

Though Berger is moving on to Franklin College, he will always remember Saint Joseph's College and the things the community has taught him.

"What I will take away from Saint Joseph's College in my career is a commitment to a certain ideal, a commitment to a certain picture of what a liberal arts education ought to look like," Berger commented.

## "Key lock" installation postponed

by Ashley Pierce

When students return to Saint Joseph's in the fall, they should notice some changes in dorm security.

The key-lock system, which has been an area of controversy for quite some time, should be implemented in all dorms by next year. Vice President of Student Affairs Bill Maniscalco commented that the college was unable to re-key the dorms at the present time due to lack of man power. However, Maniscalco added that the introduction of the key-lock system was simply being "postponed until the opening of school in 1997."

Sophomore Matt Jenks said, "I think if the Administration would have re-keyed the dorms over Christmas break, a lot of hassle could have been avoided. The sooner this situation is completely resolved the better."

While most of the dorms have been re-keyed, there are still a few which have not been, and students keys do not work on the outer door as of yet.

Some advances have been made in the system, however. According to Maniscalco, "Telephones have been installed at the external doors of all dorms."

## Gridlock is alive and well in Washington D.C.

by Emily Karol

*Karol is an Assistant Editor for The Observer and spent last semester in Washington D.C. This is an opinion piece.*

Last semester I spent a good deal of time observing the United States Congress first hand. I had this opportunity because I did an internship in Washington D.C. with Tribune Broadcasting.

One of my duties as the low man on the totem pole was to watch the Senate and House floors on C-SPAN for hours at a time. I also had the opportunity to attend congressional hearings about once or twice a week.

Even though I was particularly bitter every time I was instructed to put on my headphones and tune into the

Budget crisis or the Whitewater hearings, this observation opened my eyes to the reality of gridlock.

Gridlock is an odious state that is often the subject of much debate in my political science classes, but I had never given it much thought. I had always said to myself, "It can't be that bad. Our government is always passing

laws."

Boy was I wrong. With the new freshman class in Congress, and the Republican majority, gridlock in D.C. is worse than ever.

The so-called budget impasse is a perfect example. This whole debate boiled down to passing the buck

--continued on page 3



# Volunteering offers rich opportunities for self-growth

by Rachel Barlage

Last weekend, I went with Sister Linda and two other students to Chicago to participate in the Winter Walk, a fund-raising effort to benefit Sarah's Circle, a women's homeless shelter in the city. While in Chicago, we discussed the disturbing lack of volunteerism on the part of SJC students. Campus Ministry sponsors several trips to Sarah's Circle each semester, and on almost every occasion, the participants are Sister Linda and the same three students.

The lack of interest in volunteer opportunities is not limited to these shelter visits. There are prison visits and occasional visits to soup kitchens sponsored by Campus Ministry, and Student Volunteer Corps offers opportunities to volunteer at the Care Center, the Crisis Center, and in the homes of the elderly in Rensselaer.

It is always a struggle to get people involved, and when people do show up for events, it is usually the same handful of students. Why are Saint Joseph's students so apathetic about helping others when they have so much themselves?

I don't think that the students at SJC are bad people. In fact, I've met some of the most generous, loving, and genuinely kind people I have ever known right here in Collegeville. So why do students have such a problem doing something for other people? Unfortunately, some people are just selfish. I have often heard the responses, "I have things to do" and "What do I get out of it?" when I tried to haggle people into volunteering for one thing or the other.

What these students do not recognize is that everyone has something else that she or he could be doing. Volunteering to help others involves a degree of self-sacrifice, but what many people do

not realize is that volunteering also has very rich rewards.

Laziness is also a factor in students' reluctance to volunteer. To some, it seems like an awfully big deal to drive in the car for four hours round trip and walk in the cold when they could be cozied up in their dorm room watching TV or taking a nap. I am not claiming that I'm better than these students or that I am above these feelings, but there has never been an occasion when I regretted giving up an afternoon, a day, or a weekend to volunteer. Believe it or not, helping other people is a lot of fun.

Some peers have confided that they would love to volunteer, but that they are afraid of interacting with the people they would help. It is difficult for many people to visit nursing homes and to communicate with the elderly, who are sometimes confused and who honestly have a way of making one feel uncomfortable at times.

However, if these students would visit the Care Center one time and talk to the residents, they would realize that they are just people. They were young once. They were just like us. They had dreams and plans for the future. They danced and stud-

ied and sang and got drunk on the weekends.

The elderly have been through a lifetime of failures and accomplishments, and they have so much to teach us if we will only open ourselves to the experience of truly learning from them. The same is true of the homeless. These people are not untouchables. They are human beings with inner beauty and a great deal of dignity. They are the same as any one of us, and I think that people would be surprised to find how quickly one can go from having a great deal to living on the streets and having to ask someone else for a hot meal.

Basically, I feel that it is our responsibility to help others because most of us are so fortunate ourselves. We have so much to give, not only financially, but spiritually. The students at SJC are warm, funny, and caring people. There truly is something about this little school in the cornfields that attracts students who are extremely special in their love and understanding for other people.

The students at Saint Joe's do not realize how much they have to offer other people. It would amaze many students to see how much it means to someone who is lonely to have a young, ener-

getic person just sit down and talk to them. People really do appreciate the effort that students make when they volunteer.

Just before Christmas, a group of students went Christmas caroling at the hospital in Rensselaer, and when I watched one elderly woman, hooked up to monitors and an oxygen tank, cry openly out of the pure joy of listening to us sing "Silent Night" for the second time, I realized how little it takes to make a difference in someone's life. What could be more important than bringing a lonely, terrified person a moment of comfort?

I know that once students give volunteering a chance, they will discover that in giving of ourselves, we get much more in return. I believe that I have received far more in volunteering than I ever gave. I have learned invaluable lessons about human kindness and about hope. I promise, once you start to volunteer, you will never want to stop. It is the most valuable gift that a person can ever give to themselves or to anyone else.

## Dear Editor,

I hope you don't take this personally, but your newspaper is really lame! How about some national, international, and local political commentary. I didn't think your name was Pollyanna, but I'm not sure when I am reading *The Observer*.

C'mon, let's take on some tough issues like abortions done in the third trimester, terrorism in the United States and the chances of it coming here, the growing gap between the haves and the have nots, poverty in this state, county, and town, or the effect of industry on the local ecology and/or economy. Give us a reason to read the newspaper besides brief glimpses of Faith's childhood.

Pamela Brown

## CHAOS by Brian Shuster



Laughing hyena nerds.

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Letters must be between 350-500 words. Letters must be signed and include a telephone number. If the author of the letter does not want his/her name used, include a pseudonym to be printed. The Editorial Board can elect not to print a letter that conflicts with or violates the newspaper Editorial Policy or College Doctrine. Editors reserve the right to edit letters for length. Letters can be e-mailed to Rachel Barlage or delivered to the newspaper office located in Dwenger Hall.



# "Sno-Coming" contest results announced

After the February 17 basketball game, Brian Studebaker announced the "Sno-Coming" contest results.

The contest had four categories: Skills, Unity, Spirit, and Overall.

In the Skills category, Gallagher Hall came in first. It was followed by Merlini and Bennett Hall in second and third.

Noll Hall placed first in the Unity contest with Gallagher and Bennett Hall in second and third.

After an impressive display of spirit at the game, Bennett Hall placed first in the Spirit category. Gallagher and Justin Hall placed second and third.

Finally, the overall winner of the 1996 Puma Pride Award was Gallagher Hall. Bennett Hall and Justin Hall came in second and third.

Freshman, Chris Greski said, "I think that the week went off pretty good I'm looking forward to next year's events."



Sophomore, Becky Johnson, practices one of her speeches for the University of Indianapolis State Forensics tournament. photo by Rachel Hempel

## --Gridlock continued

Neither the Republican nor the Democratic party was willing to admit that its formula was not feasible.

Newt Gingrich, concerned with upholding his sacred Contract with America, was too busy complaining about how Clinton snubbed him on a plane ride to work out a compromise.

Clinton, on the other hand, intent upon improving his image as a waffler (and, in turn, improving his ratings for the 1996 election), never seemed to realize that the Republicans were not going to give on their 270 billion dollar tax cut.

What was even more disturbing was how the individual Democrats and Republicans fell right into the places that had been set for them by their respective, infallible leaders.

The Republican battle cry, as exclaimed by Senator Dole and Representative Kasich, was that Clinton was an impractical liberal whose bleeding heart would eventually bleed the country's resources dry.

The Democrats, led by such notables as Senators Kennedy and Boxer, and Representative Schroeder, repeatedly pointed their fingers

at the parsimonious policies of the Gingrich/Dole duo.

These sentiments were professed over and over, for hours on end with different colorful phrases and volatile exclamations, and different voices.

Meanwhile, eighty-year-old men and women were hanging onto every speech given by our nation's leaders. They just wanted to know if they could continue to depend on the home health care covered by their present Medicare package.

Also, government employees across the nation found themselves furloughed and wondering whether these mandatory vacations would be paid ones.

I guess the biggest lessons I learned from my hours of C-SPAN observation were #1) gridlock is alive and well in our nation's capitol, and #2) almost anyone can become a congressman. (Just buy a thesaurus and figure out as many ways to say the same idea as possible. Also, learn how to get a thought across in thirty seconds or less and make sure it is yelled emphatically. That is how one gets on the news and maybe even gets re-elected.)

## Forensics attends state wide tournament

by Becky Johnson

On February 24th the Forensics Team will be traveling to Indianapolis for the Indiana State Individual Events Championships. The teams departure will be at 5:00 am in Halleck Center. The events that will be represented are Impromptu, Poetry, Prose, POI (Poetic Oral Interpretation), DI (Dramatic Interpretation), ADS (after dinner speaking) and informative speaking.

Only schools located in Indiana will be attending this tournament. The University of Indianapolis is hosting

the state wide competition.

"We have been practicing hard and I think we will end this year off with a bang," stated Secretary Katherine Jarowicz. The team is looking forward to this tournament with a positive attitude. The team members help each other practice before going to a tournament so that they can establish a greater understanding of their own pieces."

"I am excited that the team is doing so well in the first year and that the interest students have shown in it is growing. I believe that this

activity is the single best advantage you can give yourself over a competitor in any field in the work force today," stated Toni Szerencse.

Matt Jenks will have a chance to attend two National competitions. They are located in Gainesville, Florida and at Western Illinois University.

"I think whatever I can give back to Saint Joseph's College will make my learning experiences here a better one. I think we have a super coach and a lot of talent," commented Vice President Jenks.

## MSU wrap up Black History Month

by Julia Garcia

The Minority Student Union of Saint Joseph's College has been hard at work planning and sponsoring activities that celebrate the diversity of the student body. "MSU is not a group for minorities, instead, it is a group for diversity," stated Douglas Thames, president. Officers were elected earlier this year, and already, MSU has prepared a year of activities to celebrate and enrich the diversity of our campus.

On February 14, 1996, the Minority Student Union and

the Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsored the performance of the Northwest Indiana Youth United Gospel Choir in the College Chapel. Over thirty students performed and visited Saint Joseph's College, while MSU members and other SJC students housed the students overnight.

MSU and the Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsored the table tents on the cafeteria tables, geared toward the education and acknowledgement of Black achievers during Black His-

tory Month.

On February 20, in the Courtney Auditorium, MSU and OMA sponsored a presentation by Leonardo Burton and Lisa Erby, Saint Joseph's College Alumni. Burton and Erby discussed their experiences at SJC.

OMA's office is located on the second floor of Halleck Student Center.

On February 27, a chef will visit the College and prepare a soul food meal for members. Also MSU, plans to raffle a pair of Pacers tickets in the upcoming weeks.



# Peer Educators: *Working to help others*



photo by Rachel Hempel

Taking a break from their hard work, Chris Zanowski and Tracey Wojciechowski smile for the camera.

by William Shannon

When many people think of "peer education," they think of tutoring between students. This is a part of the idea of peer education, but they do more than help people to pass their classes. Peer education educates students for real life and real world situations.

"The philosophy of peer education," said Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Student Life Chris Zanowski, "rests on the premise that the majority of young adults rely on their peers for feedback regarding alcohol, dating, sexuality, school and other issues." This feedback is crucial in the formation of opinions and the making of decisions about these important factors in the life of college students. The peer educators are there to provide facts and insights pivotal to students

making informed and sagacious decisions.

At Saint Joseph's College, there are currently three teams of peer educators, according to Zanowski: HIV/AIDS, Substance Abuse (which includes alcohol, other drugs and eating disorders, among other things), and Poverty Awareness (which includes work for Habitat for Humanity). In the future, Zanowski hopes to have Personal and Public Safety peer educators.

The training for peer educators is extensive. Zanowski related that the HIV educators receive twenty-eight hours of training by the American Red Cross; the substance abuse educators go through the one credit Alcohol Education Lab class with Dr. James Kenny; the Poverty Awareness educators are required to do independent study and instruction with the

members of the local Habitat for Humanity board.

According to Zanowski, eventually all of the educators will take the independent study course sponsored by the national BACCHUS/GAMMA organization. In moving towards certification, the educators will receive instruction in confrontation, listening, self-help techniques, programming and referral. Most of the educators also, according to Zanowski, attend state conferences to network with professionals in the fields to which they are attached.

What are the insights and experiences of peer educators?

Junior Jason Grzegorek, who is an AIDS/HIV peer educator said that he joined the group and decided to get involved for many reasons.

"Currently," said

Grzegorek, "I have a friend infected with the virus. I feel by educating the public, I am helping others and myself, so that they will not have to go through all the emotions that I am feeling." Grzegorek also felt that group discussion of the matters, which is a technique of peer educators, helps the message to "come across stronger and mean more."

Senior Tracey Wojciechowski also shared her experiences and feelings about her post as Habitat for Humanity peer educator. Wojciechowski said she stays in contact with the churches of Jasper County and the Jasper County Habitat for Humanity Board, whose president is Chris Zanowski.

"We are looking for land to build the next Habitat house on," said Wojciechowski, "and we are looking forward to our trip to Eagle Butte, South Dakota over Spring Break. We will be renovating houses on an Indian reservation there."

"Peer educators," said Zanowski, "have direct contact with students, serve as role models with lifestyles that reflect healthy choices, know their subjects and can provide informed advice and coordinate events for campus and beyond."

An old Chinese proverb instructs "Tell me, and I will forget; show me, and I will see; teach me, and I will understand."

The peer education program helps this mission of teaching and understanding through its efforts to help and inform students about issues that effect our lives and the lives of all the world.

## Spring Break The time is almost here!

by Peggy McLeish

Each year, thousands of college students flock to the south part of the country during the month of March. A few of the most common destinations are Daytona Beach and Panama City Beach in Florida; Cancun, Mexico; and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The idea is to find somewhere warm and somewhere where there are no authority figures (well, except those police guys...)

Spring break is a dream come true for many college students who have decided they want to major in brewery management. On spring break there are no papers due, no tests to take, only plenty of entertainment. It seems as though even relaxation often takes a back seat to 24-hour parties in some locations.

The important aspect of spring break to remember is that you'll only have four chances to... or more, depending on how long you plan to stay at St. Joe's. Spring break should be a time to truly appreciate your college buddies that you go with, and to appreciate your freedom. More than likely, after college, you will never again be expected to party for a week long, on a beach, with no other responsibilities. Enjoy it.

For those of you who are stuck in the Midwest for the first week of March, I give my condolences. For those of you who are traveling near or far for the week I wish an enjoyable and educational (not the classroom kind) experience.



# Students speak out: Exciting plans for spring break

by Peggy McLeish and  
Vanessa Mangiaforte

Spring break is almost here, and many of the students have their week already planned out. The tradition for spring break activities for college students is to go south to the warm climates where they can relax in their own ways.

The following are plans that we solicited from various students around the SJC campus.

"I am travelling to Boca Raton, Florida for ten days. The baseball team has ten games to open up our season there. I am looking forward to a fun-filled and win-filled trip. I am hoping to come back from Florida with a great tan and our team with a ranking in the

top ten in the nation!" —  
Andrew D'Amore

"I am turning 21 on the Friday that spring break begins and I plan on celebrating all week in beautiful Panama City Beach, Florida!! Pretty good timing I would say." —

Gary Campbell

"Todd Tyler, Brian Clark, and I are going to spend a relaxing week in Cancun, Mexico. We plan on taking in all the sites, scuba diving, snorkeling, and drinking ourselves silly. Spring break is always a lot of fun, and we hope that this year will be the best." —

Phil Avery

"A bunch of us are

going to Panama City, Florida for Spring Break. We are all looking forward to a great chance to hang out with friends, meet new people and work on our tans."--

Jen Kenyeri

"I am going to Daytona Beach with a friend of mine from Purdue. We are also going on a cruise during the week." —

Brad Gellert

"I am going with a group of guys to Panama City Beach, Florida. We are leaving Friday night and are traveling in a sort of caravan with two other groups of students. We are staying at the Summit Condominiums in a penthouse!"

Dan Gandolph

## The Zimmer Reviews



by Brian Zimmer

Well, it's spring again and my first tour of duty as Music Director here at WPUM enters its first really challenging phase. Imagine if you will, listening to about 5 CDs a day. Sounds pretty cool doesn't it? Well that's what I thought until I realized that well, over half of the music that we receive here at the station is not really that good. In fact some of it is just plain unbearable (Tuna casserole anybody?)

What makes hours of labor pay off is the fact that every once in a while you stumble onto a diamond in the rough like Friends of Dean Martinez, Starfish, or Seattle's Eric's Trip (everybody loves Seattle!)

Most exciting about the Spring is the fact that every Tuesday (very rarely on other days) a new album from a perennial superstar or a new music phenomenon will be released.

This year the beginning of Spring brings us new releases from the following groups/artists: Gin Blossoms (Feb. 13), Blameless (Feb. 13), Lou Reed (Feb 20), Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds (Feb 20), Archers of Loaf (Feb 20), Skinny Puppy's last album called, The Process (Feb 27), Chemical Brothers (Feb 27), Sex Pistols (Feb 27), Bad Religion (Feb 13 for Vinyl), Afghan Wigs (March, 12) and hopefully the new Madder Rose and Tool is just around the Corner!

Here's some reviews to help you fanatical CD purchasers.

Possum Dixon, "Star Maps." Since 1993 this groups has been living in "Alternative Radio" one hit wonder bin, even though their discography has been fairly solid. Star Maps may just be the album to bring Possum Dixon into their own. The album features some pretty catchy guitar hooks and groovy sing-along lyrics that make this album good for all occasions. The album contains tunes that slow to a mello, Doors-egue groove and others that make you get out yer seat and jump around (uh, o.k.) This album seems to stall a bit in the middle, but this allows the listener to relax after the initial sonic barrage of the first 6 or 7 songs. The album ends in the very solid

"Apartment Song" that never hurries its xylophone and bass intro. All in all, I have to say the album is sequenced very nicely and takes its time to develop each idea fully. The production seems to have allowed for spontaneity, and the lyrics are interesting as well as fun. This album scores some pretty high marks with me: Originality: 7.6 Sound Quality: 7.9 Musicianship: 7.9 Over all: 7.8

Frank Black, "The Cult of Ray." On the other end of the spectrum is Frank Black. His last album, 1994's Teenager of the Year, lived up to its title by making Black out to be an undisciplined and predictable musician. Has the key master to so many a rock group improved? Nope! In fact he may be getting worse. Reading too many reviews of his last album, Black made his songs longer, added more guitar, and tried to diversify his lyrics and melodies. However, nobody told Frank what everybody else learned in pre-school: People appreciate you more if you just be yourself. Not to mention the fact that you can write and perform your own songs better than anybody else can. The Frank Black we all knew years ago has changed into some kind of frightening beast, recording 4 minute guitar instrumentals that just plain suck. His songs swerve into the other lane now making them nearly impossible to groove to, when before he was criticized for being too concerned with a predictable hook. Although there are some worthy singles (Men in Black, Jesus was right, You ain't me) this album is sure to dissappoint even the most devoted Frank Black listener. Originality: 4.5 Sound Quality: 3:9 Musicianship: 4:2 Over all: 4.

Ruby Salt Peter/Superdrag Sucked out (Sampler)/Salt Bluster (E.P.) If one could find an album that Jeff (anti-rock) Proctor liked, that isn't rap, would you say it's a miracle? Well, break out your cameras because the faces of the holy family will be appearing on a burrito near you. Ex-Silverfish lead singer Ruby has a real gem with her new album and I think we will all agree that this is one to finally unify the human race with. Superdrag and Salt both tease us with fine releases this month consisting of some pretty straight forward, guitar driven rock n' roll. Where can you get all of these fine products under one roof? 90.5 WPUM Puma Rock!



photo by Rachel Hempel

Junior Chris Tardy and Sophomores Jen Kenyeri and Stephanie Witkemper get ready for their spring break trip to Panama City, Florida.



# Athletic Profile: Pro-Soccer Possibility for Payne

By John Osborne

When Curtiss Payne received his degree in Business Management last spring, he thought it was going to be the greatest accomplishment of his life. Many believed it also meant the end of his soccer career. As it turns out, everyone was wrong. The 6'2, 200 pound Payne is currently pursuing a professional soccer career in the USISL, working out with the Milwaukee Wave. Although he has yet to sign an official contract, the Wave has asked him to stay on in order to get a better look at him and allow him to learn the ropes.

But Payne is used to working his way up. For those who saw him play for three years at Saint Joseph's, it might be hard to believe that he was never actually recruited by Head Coach Mike Minielli.

"Minielli got lucky," Payne said during a phone interview from his Milwau-

kee home. "A friend of mine went to school here and I heard they needed a keeper. I wasn't playing much at Illinois State, so it looked good. But nothing was handed to me. I've always had to prove myself and work my way up."

And work he did. From personal experience I can honestly say I've never seen a goalkeeper with more raw talent and natural instinct than Curtiss Payne. Although a bad case of mono shortened his senior season and stifled a potential All-American title, the two time All-Conference player still had enough in his dossier to catch the eye of pro scouts.

"Playing at the Division II level was enough to get my name out there and my foot in the door. At the indoor tournament (at Saint Joseph's) last year, a guy from Cincinnati saw me and asked me to fill out a resume. I sent out resumes to teams and got calls from the Canton Invaders, Chicago Stingers, and Mil-

waukee Wave."

Payne tried out for Canton and Milwaukee last year, but didn't make it. After a brief stint in San Jose, California, the Wave called mid-season asking him to come back.

With professional soccer just getting off the ground in the United States, there are many opportunities, so it's not engraved in stone that Payne will stay with the Wave. On March 1 he has a tryout with the Rockford Raptors, a team from the outdoor National Professional Soccer League and is leaving himself open to any other offers that might come his way. In the meantime, though, working out with the Wave is keeping him in shape as well as getting him more exposure.

"You have to work-out and play soccer every day," Payne said, describing the differences in the college and professional level. "In college you have five or six players that are really good, but the

professionals are all good—even if they don't start. On all the teams I've tried out for, everyone plays hard every day and goes all-out. It's very competitive, so you have to live and breathe soccer."

With all of these changes in his life and almost all of his time devoted to soccer, I had to ask Curtiss if he has even had the time to miss college. It has to be quite a different life than partying in Seifert Hall with boys, "causing a ruckus outside of Justin Hall," or wrestling a vodka bottle away from a drunken freshman.

"I miss my friends, but I enjoy being on my own," he said. "I had a lot of fun in college, especially scoring a goal in the indoor tournament last year. I always liked and appreciated the recognition I got from other players and students in soccer."

"And graduation—I

never thought it would come! I only regret that I didn't start playing soccer until the sixth grade. I wish I had gotten more involved."

As with all athletes, time is probably Payne's worst enemy. At twenty-four, he is already getting old by soccer standards, and although he has avoided a major injury in his career and doesn't have a nagging wife who wants him home, he realizes he can't continue to play at this level forever.

"I said to myself that if I haven't made it by the time I'm twenty-five, I'll get a real job. But I'll never leave the game completely. It's been too good to me and I love it too much."

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Curtiss for all he has done for me in terms of helping my soccer career and just being a hell of a good friend. Stop by and see us soon because it's not the same without you.

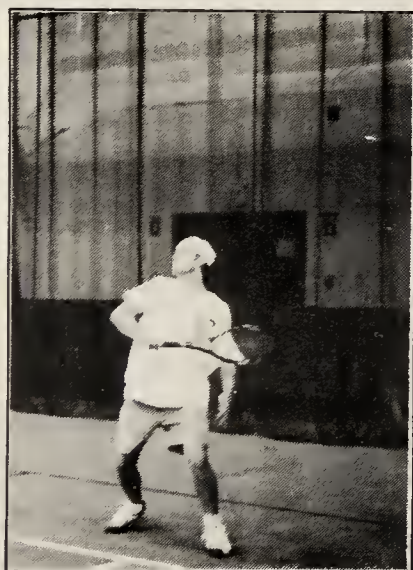


Photo by Rachel Hempel

This member of the Saint Joseph's College Men's Tennis team returns a serve from his opponent.

## Men's Tennis Prepares for Upcoming Season

juries then we will be alright," continued Barrientos.

One constant for the Pumas the last three years has been the play of Senior Steve Errington. "Without a doubt, Steve is our number one player. He's been our top player pretty much since he got here his freshman year. He knows he is the top player and with that confidence, he plays like it. I would expect him to be one of the top players in the Conference," stated Barrientos.

With an outstanding number one player, the only question becomes who will fill in the rest of the spots? Barrientos stated that his number two player is Junior Jude Clover.

"We play challenge matches in practice to determine who will play where when the season comes. Right now Jude Clover is the only real competition Errington has," said Barrientos. He continued, "Jude has improved his play to the another level this past year. He could play for a number one spot, but with Steve at number one and Jude at number two we could have as good of a one-two

combination as anyone. Steve is our leader, both on and off the court. He knows how to fire the team up and can talk to them about what they are doing. Now with Jude playing as well as he is, I just feel very comfortable about those two players."

In the third through five positions are Junior Darren Haas, Sophomore James Blinzinger, and Freshman K.C. Kinnamen. "That order could change by the first match. Darren is has an injured wrist that has been nagging him for a while, but I expect him to be ready to play. James is coming along fine. He is improving all the time. K.C. is just a freshman, but will have a big impact this season" said Barrientos.

The sixth and final singles spot is still up in the air, but Barrientos says that Junior Jon Chovanec and Freshman Geoff Hatfield will be in contention for that spot.

As far as the three doubles teams go, Barrientos says they are still in the experimental stages about who will play with

who, but is confident they will have "three solid teams that will contend for conference titles."

Coach Barrientos previewed the conference by saying "Just as in other sports, anybody can win on a given day and hopefully we can sneak up on some people and win this conference. Southern Illinois-Edwardsville and the University of Indianapolis are definitely the co-favorites. Right now I would have to put us in about fourth place, which is very respectable considering the talent in the GLVC. Who knows what will happen, however, if our players continue to improve."

The Pumas will start off the season with an indoor match on February 24 versus Valparaiso University. Their first regular season match will be against the University of Chicago on March 18th.

**Congratulations!**  
to Kevin Denson  
7th on the Puma Basketball  
All-Time Scoring List

by Jim Wirtes

After finishing the 1995 season at 9-8 with a fifth place finish in the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament, the Saint Joseph's College Men's Tennis Team is definitely looking for better things in 1996.

"We will need some of the younger players to step up and play well all season if we are to contend for a title," said Head Coach John Barrientos.

Barrientos, now in his 16th year as Head Coach of the Pumas has seen the ups and downs of the sport, but isn't real sure what to think about the 1996 season.

"I hadn't had an injured player in 12 years, but now they seem to be coming all at once," stated Barrientos referring to some minor injuries suffered by a couple of the Pumas. "I've started to go out and hope that someone doesn't turn an ankle. If we can get by these in-



# Hoopsters Nearing End of Season



Photo by Rachel Hempel

Members of the Lady Pumas basketball team prepare to rebound the ball away from their opponents.

by Jill Peterson

As the end of the basketball season draws near for the Men's and Women's basketball teams, there is uncertainty as to whether there is still hope for play in any conference tournament or National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II bid. The future for the Pumas, especially for the Women, doesn't look as promising as it did last year at this time regarding any post-season honors.

Currently, the Lady Pumas are ranked eighth in the Region. Consequently, only the top six teams in the region are selected to go to the NCAA tournament. Their

overall record of 15 wins and 8 losses includes 10 wins and 6 losses in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The position of fourth place in the conference puts the Pumas behind Southern Indiana, Indiana/Purdue-Ft. Wayne, and current Conference leader Bellarmine.

Junior Heather Meyer noted, "Our season really isn't going the way we would have liked it to have gone, but I feel that if we all come together and play as a team, we can make this season end on a positive note."

Lately, the Lady Pumas played on the road at the

University of Southern Indiana and Kentucky Wesleyan. In the latter game, Saint Joseph's came out on top by beating Kentucky Wesleyan 71-62. Junior Tami Pottinger led the team with 16 points and 8 rebounds. Additional contributors included Tammie Williams and Mindy Metzger with 13 points each, followed by Shanna Miller and Mindy Laffoon with 11 points respectively.

In the previous competition, the Pumas were beat by the University of Southern Indiana with the final score of 68-45. Once again, Laffoon and Pottinger led the team with a total combination of 27 points.

More recently, the Women's team was overpowered by the University of Indianapolis 78-73 at home. Playing with a bad back, Tami Pottinger led the Pumas off the bench after not playing the first 13 minutes. She contributed 23 points and 10 rebounds. Following her performance, Jessika Henry and Mindy Laffoon scored 14 and 12 points respectively.

Sophomore Sarah Krey commented, "Even though we are not winning like we would like to be, I am keeping a positive attitude

and doing my best every day to help the team be as successful as possible."

In the Men's arena of hoops, the team is trying to reach their full potential by ending the season on a positive note.

Head Coach Bill Bland observed, "Even though it is out of reach for us to make the play-offs, our goal is to always play the best that we can."

Overall, the Men's record of 11-11 consists of 7 wins and 9 losses in the G.L.V.C. after the 56-55 loss to the University of Indianapolis on February 15th. The frustrating fact that the team has not won as many games as expected puts them in the middle of what Bland called "a very tough league." "Anybody can beat anybody in our talented conference," Bland noted.

One team in the challenging conference, University of Southern Indiana, to whom the Pumas lost 75-67 during a recent away game, is ranked number one in the region.

"We played great defense; however, we could not pull out the victory," Bland said. Goldie Ashford led Saint Joseph's with 17 points and 5 rebounds, followed by Kevin Denson's donation of 16 points and 9 boards.

In another away game, the Pumas dropped a competitive game to Kentucky Wesleyan, 79-70. Once again, Denson showed his ability to score with 23 points and 10 rebounds. Sophomore Chad Patterson added 17 points and 12 rebounds.

One main factor that the Men's team has missed since November 28th is playing time from Senior Chad Pulver. His injury has not allowed him to play this season with the exception of the first three games.

"Chad has maintained an extremely positive attitude throughout the course of his rehabilitation. He is a super asset to us on the bench because of his coaching capability. He is experienced as a player and therefore can tell his teammates what is working or not," Bland said as he complimented Pulver's behavior.

Next year, the team will miss the ambition and capabilities of the other seniors: Kevin Denson, Roger Fry, and Walter Perkins. Bland acknowledged their hard work, "The sophomores and juniors will reap the benefits of their hard work and leadership as they begin next season's games. These guys have been tremendous role models on and off the court."

One of those sophomores who will be profiting from the seniors' dedication and loyalty to the team is Freshman Aukjan Van Belkum.

"Personally, this season has done a lot of good for me. I believe I have improved on many different levels; next season, I am hoping to continue to develop my talents even further. We have a good base to begin with next year, despite some shortcomings this season," Van Belkum said optimistically.

## Tracksters Off to a Terrific Start

by Kevin Collins

It's that time of year again! Time for the track team to get a good start out of the blocks, and hurdle or heave their way to victory. Thus far both teams are doing just that. Both teams are off to their best season starts ever and some individuals on the teams have already qualified for the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Nationals.

The Women are currently ranked 16th in the nation for Division II schools. Their record stands at a perfect 4-0. Hopefully, this is just the beginning of a great season and they

can continue doing well as the outdoor season draws near. A key to the good start for the women has been a lot of hard work. Everyone is doing their best and it's showing. Junior Laura Witek has been a standout for the Lady Pumas, having qualified to go to the Indoor Track Nationals at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis. Laura is qualified in the 5000 meter run and has also qualified for the 3000 meter run, which is an outdoor event.

Coach Massoels commented on Witek's success, "It's quite a feat to qualify for the 3000 [meter run] on an indoor track."

The Men are having a great start to their season as well. They are 17th in the nation with a 3-1 record to date. Under the tutelage of intense Head Coach Bill Massoels, the Men continue working extremely hard. A couple of outstanding performances have come from sophomores Bryan Hall and Toby Cheatum. They have each qualified for an invitation to Indianapolis in the 35lb throw. Toby has a throw of 46 feet 10 inches and Bryan has a throw of 47 feet 11 3/4 inches.

"Both teams are progressing the way I had hoped, and if they keep improving, we may just better the best rankings

we've had to this point," Coach Massoels added.

Even though they never compete at home, the teams still need support. So when you see someone from the track team, be sure to let them know that you know they are doing a fantastic job representing Saint Joseph's College and are having an outstanding season!

**FINAL HOME GAME**

**TONIGHT**

vs. WISCONSIN-PARKSIDE

Women's game: 5:30 pm

Men's game: 7:30 pm

**GO PUMAS!**



## Reflections of Faith

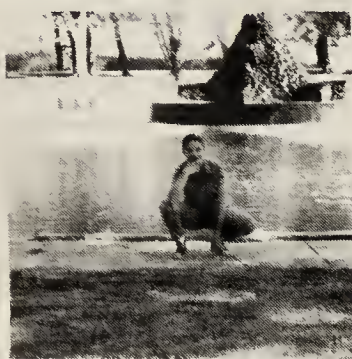


Photo by Jen Palecek

by Faith Sievers

Ho hum, the grass is a putrid shade of brown. It's cold. It's warm. It's cold again.... Being cooped up indoors in little dorm rooms is quickly making school a traumatic experience for many of us. Senioritis and cabin fever have definitely set in among the ranks.

As a matter of fact, if I read one more Emily Dickinson poem, I think I will cry (or maybe just scream really loudly). People who willingly lock themselves up in their rooms or houses for most of their adult lives (as she did) have me wondering.

Because ya know, there comes a time in students' lives when we need more than just a weekend of procrastination. We need some time off--we NEED a SPRING BREAK!!

I am NOT, I repeat, NOT exaggerating here folks. There would be mass hysteria, breakdowns, and missing people if students had no sanctioned release from school.

Unfortunately some of you shmucks (unlike moi) will be spending their spring breaks right here in good ol' Rensseltucky U.S.A., or in your respective boring hometowns. I am going to continue with a list of things to do for my fellow peers who fall into this category.

Those of you who are going to Barbados over break can just skip over this part to someone else's boring column. But be nice. Remember

your stay-home friends. Bring them back a native.

Three Things To Do for Those not Travelling:

1) Well, this isn't a fun one, but if you are the practical type, you might want to do a serious summer job/internship/big job in the real world search. (Okay, that fulfills my public service duty. Whew!)

2) If you're generally apathetic and lethargic, but like competitions you've got a good chance of winning, why not try breaking the Guinness record for the longest sleeping time.

Is it humanly possible (without sedatives, tranquilizers, or other drugs of course... we all know the wonderful effect of these by now) to sleep for eighteen hours straight? (And if you like a challenge, try that without staying awake the previous 48 hours.)

3) If you were inspired by Valentine's Day and want to ensure that you have a date at some point in the future, you can avidly search one out for that all important Spring Formal.

And hey, I'm liberated. It's perfectly okay for you women out there to ask a guy out. The worst he can do is say no. (Unless your would-be date is a sumo wrestler. In which case, I recommend that you lure him into skipping a weekend of belly-smashing by promising him he can eat the buffet table and all!)

If you think this article is entertaining, you've got problems. However, I find that reading it out loud with hand puppets improves its comic effect. I guess you could do that over spring break too....

## Students Intolerant of Homosexuals

by Kathleen Brass

Homosexuality! For some this word is a lifestyle choice, and for others it evokes fear and hatred. It wasn't until this week that I really recognized that Saint Joseph's College had such a big problem with the acceptance of homosexuality in general.

Earlier this year, I heard someone say that AIDS was a "gay disease." This person actually was under the assumption that simply the act of homosexual sex caused the HIV virus to occur. Well, I thought that this was only a single incidence of ignorance and I continued to live my life happily. Then, a theme seemed to repeat itself.

First, I was in Core 8 and we were discussing the body communication of people in Latin American nations, specifically Mexico. Susan Chattin then asked the men in the class about the practices in Mexico of men sitting next to other men in

public places or holding hands in public. Their reaction, to say the least, was one of great disgust. In this way, Professor Chattin made me realize that people around our campus just aren't as open minded about homosexual sex as they are about straight sex.

Then, in Core 4 that same week, a passage from The Bible was brought up in which homosexuality was criticized. I understand that at Saint Joseph's College homosexuality is about as celebrated as pre-marital sex, but some of the responses I heard in class about homosexuality being "wrong," "abnormal," and "correctable" upset me greatly.

I decided to try to be more aware of the anti-homosexuality tension that is so prevalent today. I heard one of my friends say "fudge-packer" in reference to a character on the television. I heard someone yell "faggot" in the cafeteria, and it bellowed over all the other voices. I even realized that I use the word "queer" about 5 times a day to describe awkward things.

It was then on Thursday night that I truly felt embarrassed to be a member of the community at Saint Joseph's College. At the men's game a group of male students were yelling at the opposing

team's fans, as they usually do at the games. This group was shouting "He's a gay guy!" across the gym.

Obviously, this group had no respect for anyone who may have been homosexual in the field house. Also, security was sitting within 5 feet of these men, and they said absolutely nothing about the use of this terminology. Had they yelled things about African-Americans or other minority groups, I am almost positive a response would have been made.

I wish people would re-think their perspective on homosexuality. In my opinion, there is absolutely nothing wrong with love between two people, even if it is homosexual love. It really makes no difference whether the person next to you has sex with a person of same sex as them or not. Actually, it is no one's business!

I would just like people to realize that there are different sexual preferences today, and that no one has the right to judge another person's choices. Students going to a college that boasts about Christian values, such as love and tolerance, should practice what it preaches.

**OOPS!** The editorial staff would like to apologize for the misspelling of Bennett Hall in the February 8 issue. The error occurred in "Reflections of Faith" and was pointed out by Bennett resident and loyal supporter Phillip Avery.

## Black History Month

"That is the issue that will continue in this country when these poor tongues of Judge Douglas and myself shall be silent. It is the eternal struggle between these two principles--right and wrong-- throughout the world. They are the two principles that have stood face to face from the beginning of time; and will ever continue to struggle. The one is the common right of humanity, and the other the divine right of kings. It is the same principle in whatever shape it develops itself."

--Abraham Lincoln

## President's Day